(b) whether Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government intend to take action against such contractors who are flouting the labour laws?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, provides for fixation, revision and enforcement of minimum wages to the workers in the scheduled employments both in Central and State Spheres. In the Central Spheres, the implementation is secured through officers of the Central Industrial Relations Machinery, while at the State level, through the State enforcement machineries. These officers are appointed as Inspectors and they conduct inspections in the Central and State Sphere establishments to enforce the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act. Action as provided under the Act is taken against the defaulters which *inter-alia* includes filing of claims application, recovery of difference of wages and payment of compensation etc. Prosecution cases are also filed in respect of the violations in the Courts. The details of the inspections carried out and action taken thereon in the Central Sphere during the last year are given below:—

1.	No. of Inspection made in respect of Contractors Estt.	9449
2.	No. of cases of less payment detected	2760
3.	No. of claim cases filed	1763
4.	No. of claim cases disposed off	1710
5.	Amount of difference of payment of wages and compensation awarded	Rs.1.69 crore
6.	Amount of compensation recovered	Rs. 19.05 lakh
7.	Amount paid to the workers	Rs. 3.62 lakh
8.	No. of workers benefitted	6,966
9.	No. of prosecution cases filed	3,432

Safety Norms for Agriculture Workers

2671. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Labour Organisation at its 89th Session held recently has adopted a new set of safety norms, protecting the agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the main features of the safety norms adopted;

(c) whether India has ratified this convention;

(d) if not, by when, it is going to be ratified by India; and

(e) to what extent it would be helpful for the agricultural labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Convention and Recommendation lays stress on preventive, protective and welfare measures to be taken for the health and safety of agricultural workers.

The decision to ratify the Convention will be taken only after extensive examination of the provisions of the convention and the implication of ratification of the Convention by means of cunsultation with the stakeholders, *i.e.*, the Central Organisations of Workers and Employers, Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments.

Pending Labour Cases

2672. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many labour cases are pending in different Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts, Central and State-wise;

(b) how many of these cases are continuing in the Courts for more than ten years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the delay in disposal of cases are due to unwarranted adjournments; and

(d) if so, what action is proposed to be taken to expedite disposal of the labour cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) Information on the pendency of cases for State Labour Courts and State Labour Tribunals is not maintained. However, the position with regard to Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts is as under:

Total No. of cases pending (as on 31.3.2001--11080)
Total No. of cases pending for ten years and above (as on 31.3.2001) ---450.

The Ministry of Labour from time to time has brought to the notice of the Presiding Officers of the CGIT-cum-Labour Courts the need to reduce pendency of cases. In a recent review meeting held in May, 2001 in the Ministry of Labour, the Presiding Officers were once again requested about the need to reduce the pendency of cases and not to give repeated adjournments as such adjournments also result in delayed disposal of cases.

Review of Supervisory Mechanism of ILO

2673. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Labour Ministers Conference held in May, 2001 in